

MEMORANDUM

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CONFIDENTIAL - GDSINFORMATION

June 26, 1975

NOTED by
Stewart

MEMORANDUM FOR: GENERAL SCOWCROFT

FROM: CLINTON E. GRANGER

SUBJECT: Morocco Trip Report

The attached trip report was obtained from Major General Jack Hoefling after his trip to Morocco. The major deficiencies noted are being addressed within the Army Staff; however, there are points that may be useful in future considerations for military assistance to Morocco:

-- The size of MUSLO will probably require increase in the future to insure that the Moroccan program is properly handled. I verified this in separate conversation with the Chief, MUSLO on June 23rd, and made the same observation while inspecting in Rabat a year ago. DOD will probably object to this based on their efforts to make overall worldwide reductions.

-- The Moroccans still desire a tank with a 105mm gun. This would imply either a complete rebuild of the M48A3's they have (at great expense), or providing M60's (new production end of the line is 1984). Any efforts along this line should be discouraged, as the threat to the Moroccan armed forces does not really justify the additional cost, nor would it be easy to meet an additional requirement for 105mm M60 tanks in the near term. Early orientation could preclude the question of M60's becoming a political rather than a military question.

-- The Moroccans do not desire to send their personnel to the United States, as they are afraid they will become "contaminated" with our political system and society; providing MTT's is not so difficult as it appears on the surface, as instruction can be given in French.

DOS REVIEWED 21 MAR 2011 NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

cc: Bob Oakley

OSD REVIEWED 22-Mar-2011: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR LOGISTICS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

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DALO-ILZ-A

19 JUN 1975

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By RE As per instructions on document
Date 2/44

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Director of International Logistics DCSLOG DA Visit to
Morocco 1-5 June 1975

1. The Director of International Logistics (DIL) DCSLOG DA visited Morocco 1-5 June 1975. In addition to daily conversations with Ambassador Neumann and COL Sanders, Chief, MUSLO, meetings were held with the Inspector General Royal Moroccan Army, BG Benaissa and LTC Achahbar, Secretary General, Minister of Defense (who is also in charge of foreign military purchases) and CDR Ziat, Chief B-4 Logistics. (NOTE: The Moroccan Army rank structure has been downgraded since the attempted Coup and in many cases Lieutenant Colonels are doing the jobs of Lieutenant Generals in other Armies.) Following are observations and highlights:

a. Due to the personal interest of the Ambassador and the outstanding work of the MAAG Chief, Colonel Sanders, there has been a definite turnabout in our relations with the Royal Moroccan Army. This was evidenced by my warm welcome and frank discussions by the King approving an orientation tour to the United States for four key officers as an exception to his policy of no CONUS training; and by the acceptance of invitations to the Ambassador's luncheon by key members of the Army (Inspector General, Secretary General Chief of Armor, Chief of Signal, B-4 Logistics, B-3 Operations) for the first time in years.

b. The Ambassador is very concerned about losing COL Sanders, Chief MUSLO, at a critical time. There is also a definite need for an increased staff when major deliveries start under the \$500 million Modernization Program.

c. The fact that the 26 M48A3 tanks that were delivered last November are still in the warehouse in Casablanca is cause for concern. While there may be several plausible reasons given by the Moroccans such as lack of transport, shortage of manuals, or more importantly, political reasons, the fact still remains that they have not moved nor is there any evidence of a maintenance program (machine guns are still in crates and parts have not been sorted out). This causes some doubt as to the

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SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT
TWO YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED ON 31 DECEMBER 1981

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SUBJECT: Director of International Logistics DCSLOG DA Visit to
Morocco 1-5 June 1975

Moroccans' ability to handle the large quantities of equipment due in under the Modernization Program. This situation must be closely monitored and US Teams sent in to assist if necessary.

d. There is a definite division of thought in the Moroccan Army as to the value of the M48A3 with its 90mm gun. It is most important that the upcoming visit of four key Moroccan officers - BG Sefrious, CDR Royal Guard; LTC Achahbar, Secretary General Staff; LTC Ben Cheikh, Inspector Armor; and LTC Amezil, CDR Repair Battalion, be shown the merits of the M48 tanks.

2. The following problem areas were discussed:

a. The need for payment of overdue down payments on FMS cases for the Modernization Program. (Moroccans promised immediate attention.)

b. The reason for the delay in the shipment of jeeps.

c. The importance of an immediate decision on the orientation tour (King Hassan made decision during my visit.)

d. Short supply situation of U.S. Army in 106 Recoilless Rifles and TOW mounts for M113's which the Moroccans need and would like expedited.

3. The Moroccans requested the following:

a. New engines in the 28 remaining M48A3 and as good appearance as possible. (This reinforced the observation in para 1d above.)

b. Inspection of the M48A3's and A5's in CONUS by Moroccans prior to shipment and assurance in writing as to condition.

c. Eventual upgunning of M48A3's and furnishing of M60's when available.

d. Continued help in the form of Training Teams for both tactical training and logistics. The Moroccans stressed policy of in-country teams as opposed to CONUS training.

e. Special consideration in getting 106 Recoilless Rifles with their jeeps as ordered.

f. Assurance of continued logistic support of any item which may be phased out of U.S. Army inventory. (I explained FMS policy on continued resupply.)

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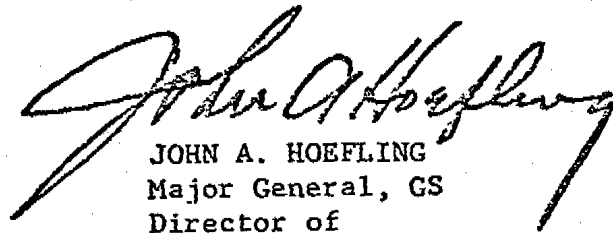
SUBJECT: Director of International Logistics DCSLOG DA Visit to Morocco 1-5 June 1975

g. U.S. help in getting proper technical manuals for M48 series tanks and all equipment to be furnished under the Modernization Program. (NOTE: I promised U.S. cooperation in all of the above requests.)

4. Details of meetings with Inspector General are at TAB A, and with Secretary General at TAB B.

5. Details of visit to Casablanca port and main supply depot are at TAB C.

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as



JOHN A. HOEFLING
Major General, GS
Director of
International Logistics

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SYNOPSIS OF MEETING WITH GENERAL DRISS BENAÏSSA
INSPECTOR GENERAL, ROYAL MOROCCAN ARMED FORCES (F.A.R.)

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1. On 3 June 1975 at 1000 hours, MG Hoefling accompanied by COL Sanders conducted a meeting with GEN Benaïssa in the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces Headquarters. GEN Benaïssa greeted GEN Hoefling accompanied by CDR Ziati, Chief B-4 (Logistics).
2. GEN Benaïssa welcomed GEN Hoefling to Morocco on behalf of his government and military command, and expressed his sincere pleasure at the opportunity to meet with him. GEN Hoefling thanked GEN Benaïssa for his welcome and expressed his own satisfaction at the opportunity to convey to the General, the Department of the Army's desire for continued friendship and closer ties.
3. In this connection, GEN Hoefling emphasized that the recent invitation for Moroccan officers to visit military materiel installations in the U.S. was important. GEN Hoefling asked GEN Benaïssa if a decision had been made to accept this invitation. GEN Benaïssa said nominations had been referred to His Majesty for approval, and while he did not know the outcome as yet, he expected they would be favorably received. GEN Hoefling said he was anxious to hear of the decision before his departure from Rabat for Jordan so that he could initiate immediate arrangements to assure that the trip would be successful. GEN Hoefling mentioned that there are two places of particular interest in the program of the trip, one is the visit of the Armored Center at Fort Knox, Kentucky and the other is the visit of the Army Depot at Anniston, Alabama. GEN Hoefling told GEN Benaïssa that the visit to Anniston would demonstrate the extensive techniques used to rebuild and renovate tanks. Moroccan personnel will thus be made aware first hand of the quality of the tanks they receive. GEN Benaïssa agreed on the value of such visits to the Moroccan Army, and said he would attempt to obtain His Majesty's decision prior to GEN Hoefling's departure from Morocco. (NOTE: This was accomplished.)
4. GEN Hoefling said he wished to assure GEN Benaïssa personally that the remainder of the M48A3 tanks to Morocco would be in good condition. They will be in excellent condition with new diesel engines as requested by the Moroccans. General Hoefling offered to have COL Terhaz of the Moroccan Embassy in Washington, to accompany him to Anniston to inspect the tanks prior to their release for shipment. GEN Benaïssa said he deeply appreciated GEN Hoefling's personal interest in this matter.
5. In reply to GEN Benaïssa's concern over the 90mm gun, GEN Hoefling conveyed the Department of the Army's willingness to accommodate the F.A.R. in either upgunning the M48A3's to the M48A5 model (105mm gun) at a later date or supplying M60's when they become available from production in normal leadtime.

TAB A

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6. GEN Hoefling said his main concern in the Modernization Program for Morocco now that the FMS contracts have been signed, was to assure that the execution will be carried out thoroughly, i.e., that equipment and spares deliveries and training will mesh so as to make the program a success. He asked GEN Benaissa if he had specific questions which he could assist in answering or problems which he could assist in resolving. GEN Benaissa said he had no pressing problems and assured GEN Hoefling that he will relay to him any future problems through MUSLO.

7. In response to a request for further help, GEN Hoefling assured GEN Benaissa that the Department of the Army is willing to send logistic and training teams at Moroccan request to help integrate the equipment delivered to Morocco. CDR Ziati said he would like to ask GEN Hoefling if it would be possible to send a team of F.A.R. logisticians to visit logistics installations in the U.S. and possibly receive some training in this field. GEN Hoefling thought the idea an excellent one and did not foresee any problem. (NOTE: The U.S. Training Survey Team which is due to arrive later in the month, will discuss this as well as other types of training desired in detail.)

8. General Hoefling was saluted on his departure by an Honor Guard.

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SYNOPSIS OF MEETING WITH COL ACHAHBAR
SECRETARY GENERAL MINISTRY OF DEFENSE
(ALSO IN CHARGE OF FOREIGN MILITARY SALES)

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1. On 3 June at 1100 hours, MG Hoefling accompanied by COL Sanders conducted a meeting with Secretary General Achahbar in the Ministry of National Defense. GEN Hoefling was honored on arrival and on departure by an Honor Guard.

2. COL Achahbar welcomed GEN Hoefling and expressed deep appreciation for his visit. In his view the visit "cemented" the excellent relations which Morocco has maintained with the United States through and with the help of COL Sanders' organization (MUSLO). This rapport has been most helpful to him and also vital in the establishment of the Modernization Program for Morocco. GEN Hoefling expressed his pleasure at meeting with COL Achahbar and at having thus the opportunity to approach specific questions with the Program.

3. Now that the major purchases have been completed, the main concern, GEN Hoefling said, was to assure the success of the execution phase. He asked that he be notified immediately of any problems in the execution phase and offered both logistical and training teams to insure success.

GEN Hoefling also stressed the importance of the proposed orientation visit to the U.S. by selected Moroccan officers, which will afford them an opportunity to get acquainted with the equipment they will receive as well as with the activities to support it. COL Achahbar acknowledged receiving the letter from Ambassador Neumann inviting key F.A.R. officers on behalf of the Departure of the Army to make this orientation visit. However, due to the importance of the position held by the selected officers, the decision had had to be referred to His Majesty King Hassan II. The officers concerned all agreed in the interest of such a trip, as for himself he considered it a necessity to the success of the Program. (NOTE: King approved trip the same day.)

4. GEN Hoefling asked COL Achahbar whether he had specific questions or problems that he could assist in resolving. COL Achahbar said he had two questions with some of the provisions on the FMS contracts. One was the provision stating that whenever an item is not available, a substitute item will be shipped. He, of course, can understand the necessity for such provision. However, he would like to propose that whenever a substitution is required on a significant item, a Moroccan delegation be sent to the U.S. to view the substituted item before it is shipped to Morocco. This would avoid creating an undesirable situation if the delivered item is not satisfactory. GEN Hoefling thought the idea excellent and said he would support it fully. GEN Hoefling also offered the Moroccans an opportunity to inspect any piece of equipment before it left the United States for Morocco and COL Achahbar was very pleased with this offer.

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TAB B

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The other provision on some of the contracts, COL Achahbar said, dealt with the supportability of the equipment. In some cases it is stated that a particular item will no longer be produced after two years. His question was, is logistic support discontinued after production is discontinued? GEN Hoeffling assured him that the Department of the Army maintained logistic support on the equipment it supplies well beyond the time that their production is discontinued. He was not aware of any equipment of the Modernization Program that would not be supported logistically for many years to come.

5. GEN Hoeffling then brought up the subject of the next shipment of M48A3's to Morocco. He wanted to assure COL Achahbar that these tanks will be in excellent condition and that he and COL Terhzaz would look at them before shipment. COL Achahbar said the experience with the first 26 tanks proved that it was important that the condition of the equipment be clearly stated at the time it is offered. He realized that the decision on the first 26 was taken at higher level and was rather a political decision than a technical one. However, it was not until he arrived in Washington to sign the 1,513 that he was made aware that there are three types of condition, i.e., "as is", renovated, or new. Also in connection with the first 26 tanks, there was a misunderstanding in the type of gun that was to equip these tanks, i.e. Morocco was thinking that 105mm guns would be available and that later they found out M48A3's do not have with 105mm guns. For this reason he had asked MUSLO to provide a letter stating the exact condition of the next 28 tanks. On the basis of the information provided, he would then refer the decision to accept or not accept the rebuilt tanks, to higher level. COL Sanders agreed that he would provide this information in a letter to COL Achahbar the next day.

6. GEN Hoeffling said he wanted to forewarn COL Achahbar on a few problems that he is now attempting to resolve. One was the problem with the fuel tanks and brackets on the jeeps. This problem had caused delay in shipment until August 1975. The furnishing of 106 recoilless rifles. It would be necessary to obtain approval to withdraw the 106 RR's from Army. GEN Hoeffling also said there would be difficulty in obtaining TOW mounts for the M113's, as they are in short supply. COL Achahbar said he appreciated GEN Hoeffling's frank discussion of these problems and did not doubt that all efforts will be made to resolve them, and he wished to thank the General beforehand for his personal interest in these issues. In this regard, COL Achahbar said, although his busy schedule and his position did not permit him as often or as meaningfully as he felt it, to express his gratitude for all the efforts made and the assistance rendered by Washington, he wanted to assure the General that he was well aware of these efforts on behalf of his program. GEN Hoeffling assured COL Achahbar that the success of the Program is as important to him and to the Department of the Army as it is to COL Achahbar that the success of the Program is as important to him and to the Department of the Army as it is to CO, Achahbar and the F.A.R., and that the

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TAB B

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United States is most anxious to maintain its close ties with the Moroccan Armed Forces. COL Achahbar agreed that those ties are indeed very deep and most valuable to Morocco. While this is a fact that can be established from many writings, it takes a special significance when expressed verbally and in person, as the opportunity has presented itself in this meeting - although no words can truly express the depth of one's feelings. (NOTE: Both the Ambassador and COL Sanders stated the condition of the first 26 M48A3's was made very clear to everyone from the King down through the B-3 (Operations) Army. This was effort on COL Achahbar's part to assure a protected position on his part, if the purchase of other than new equipment is ever critized.)

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TAB B

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SYNOPSIS OF TRIP TO CASABLANCA PORT
AND MAIN SUPPLY DEPOT AT CASABLANCA

1. On 4 June 1975, MG Hoefling accompanied by LTC Heggen, Chief Army Section and MAJ Barbour, Army Section, visited the port of Casablanca and the main supply depot. Escort was Major Bachir, Special Assistant for the Modernization Program Army B-4 (Logistics).
2. The four of the Casablanca port included briefings and conducted tour of the container ship operations, phosphate operations (automatically controlled) and the grading and shipping of fruits and vegetables. The port of Casablanca is the largest in Africa. It handles 20 million long tons annually of which 14 million is phosphate.
3. The visit to the main supply depot was to see the 26 M48A3 tanks which are parked under cover. The depot is commanded by Major Gueliz. GEN Hoefling expressed disappointment that the tanks had not been moved since November after all the efforts to get them to Morocco. The tanks are in good condition with exception of one which was heavily damaged enroute. MAJ Bachir stated the Moroccans would have liked to have 105 guns. GEN Hoefling inquired as to the threat and stated the M48A3's and follow on A5's could handle any threat. He also stated that if the Moroccans desired to upgun later on it could be arranged and he suggested that the visiting Moroccans check on this while at Anniston. GEN Hoefling also reminded MAJ Bachir that the Moroccans were well aware of the 90mm guns and that no one else had expressed disappointment.
4. The following problem areas were uncovered:
 - a. The Moroccans need the entire series of Technical Manuals for the M48A3 tanks (These are on Letter of Offer). They also need publications in advance to check component spare parts list. (This will be done).
 - b. Moroccans need an open end case on publications for the entire Modernization Program (attempts have been made to get the Moroccans to initiate an FMS case without success - further attempts will be made.)
 - c. Moroccans will need Quality Assurance Team gack (Army section has offered QAT any time it is requested.)

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